

Chairperson: Supervisor Willie Johnson, Jr.  
Clerk: Linda Durham, 278-4225  
Research Analyst: Rick Ceschin, 278-5003

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE  
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, SAFETY AND GENERAL SERVICES**

**Tuesday, June 20, 2006 - 2:00 P.M.**

**Milwaukee County Courthouse - Room 201-B**

**MINUTES**

TAPE No. 17: Side A, #620 to EOT  
TAPE No. 17: Side B, #001 to #560

**PRESENT:** Supervisors Rice, De Bruin, Cesarz, Broderick, Devine and Johnson (Chair)  
**EXCUSED:** Supervisor Schmitt

**SCHEDULED ITEMS:**

**The Committee may adjourn into closed session under the provisions of Wisconsin Statutes, Section 19.85(1)(g), for the purpose of the Committee receiving oral or written advice from legal counsel concerning strategy to be adopted with respect to pending or possible litigation with regard to the following matter(s). At the conclusion of the closed session, the Committee may reconvene in open session to take whatever actions it may deem necessary:**

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**CORPORATION COUNSEL RECOMMENDS PAYMENT/SETTLEMENT OF THE FOLLOWING CLAIMS/LITIGATION** *(Note: Section 56.08 of the Milwaukee County General Ordinances authorizes the Judiciary Committee to settle all claims when the amount does not exceed \$5,000.00, and the action of the Committee is final and no further County Board action is required.):*

1. 06-J-11 From Federation of Nurses & Health Professionals, status report on the Electronic Medical Record (EMR) system. **(INFORMATIONAL ONLY, UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE.)** (Tape #17A-#625)

**APPEARANCES:**

Robert Andrews, Deputy Corporation Counsel  
John Schapekahn, Principal Corporation Counsel  
Deputy Inspector Richard Schmidt, Sheriff's Department  
Dr. Michael Grubner, Sheriff's Department  
Monica Pope-Wright, Sheriff's Department  
Superintendent Ron Malone, House of Correction

## SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):

Les Lucas, IMSD/DAS  
Barbara Kelsey, Federation of Nurses & Health Professionals  
Linda Federiche, Federation of Nurses & Health Professionals  
Stephen Moershel, Local 5001  
Lorraine E. Schmidt, Nurses Union  
Beth Werue, President, AFSCME Local 645

Chairman Johnson advised that this Special meeting of the Judiciary, Safety and General Services Committee is being held to address concerns expressed in a letter from the Wisconsin Federation of Nurses & Health Professionals dated May 24, 2006 regarding the Electronic Medical Record (EMR) system. He stated that the letter has been distributed to County Board staff, County Executive staff, Corporation Counsel, DAS staff, the Sheriff's Department, Journal/Sentinel, WTMJ, District Council 48, and the nurses. Therefore, the letter and its contents regarding the EMR system are appropriate for discussion at this Special meeting.

Supervisor Rice requested that Corporation Counsel provide comments and/or ground rules relative to the discussion regarding this subject.

Mr. Andrews commented that the initial concern was that the notice of the meeting seemed to limit itself to the EMR system alone; however, as stated by Chairman Johnson, the letter dated May 24, 2006 from the Federation of Nurses & Health Professionals have been widely circulated. Mr. Andrews reiterated that it is a proper source of discussion for this Committee to entertain information regarding the EMR system and also the elements contained therein. However, he cautioned the Committee relative to the Christiansen lawsuit and requested that the Committee receive factual information in open session from those wishing to give testimony. Any discussion can be held in "closed session" at the conclusion of the open portion of this meeting.

Committee members requested further clarification.

Mr. Andrews advised that a discussion of trying to interpret or set policy should be discussed in "closed session". Questions from Committee members to obtain additional support or factual information would be proper in open session.

Supervisor DeBruin stated that she would hope that any comments made today by Sheriff's department or Jail staff would not result in any recrimination or problems for staff by the Sheriff's department in any way.

Ms. Kelsey reviewed concerns outlined in the May 24, 2006 letter and reiterated the need for increased medical records personnel at both the Jail and the House of Correction on the day and p.m. shifts. She stated that a Psychiatrist is also needed at the House of Correction. Ms. Kelsey requested that the Judiciary, Safety and

## SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):

General Services Committee look into the problem with the medical record provider because the paper medical records system provider has not been able to provide adequate charts on a timely manner to staff that need them.

Questions and comments ensued.

Ms. Federiche provided comments relative to the need for additional staff at the Jail and House of Correction and answered questions raised by Committee members.

Ms. Schmidt expressed concerns regarding the EMR system.

Supervisor DeBruin commented that she would like to see consensus between the administration (medical and nursing), as well as IMSD and front line staff, regarding the EMR system.

Deputy Inspector Schmidt provided comments relative to communication between administration and the nurses.

Mr. Moershel provided comments and requested additional staff (a Psychiatrist for the House of Correction and two Registered Nurses (RN's) for day and p.m. shifts for sick call requests at the Jail). He stated additional staff is needed because there is a severe shortage of RN's at the jail and the health needs of the inmates are not being met.

Ms. Werue commented that the unavailability of medical records is unacceptable and therefore, becomes a liability.

***MOTION BY: (RICE) Adjourn into closed session under the provisions of Wisconsin Statutes, Section 19.85(1)(g), for the purpose of the Committee receiving oral or written advice from legal counsel concerning strategy to be adopted with respect to pending or possible litigation with regard to item 1). At the conclusion of the closed session, the Committee may reconvene in open session to take whatever actions it may deem necessary.***

**AYES:** Rice, DeBruin, Cesarz, Broderick, Devine and Johnson (Chair) - 6

**NOES:** 0

**EXCUSED:** Schmitt

The Committee adjourned into closed session at approximately 3:05 p.m. and did not reconvene in open session.

**SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):**

STAFF PRESENT: Rick Ceschin, Research Analyst, County Board  
Bill Domina, Corporation Counsel  
Bob Andrews, Deputy Corporation Counsel  
John Schapekahn, Principal Corporation Counsel  
Superintendent Ron Malone, House of Correction  
Deputy Inspector Schmidt, Sheriff's Office

This meeting was recorded on tape, which is available for audit upon prior request of the Committee Clerk. The foregoing matters were not necessarily considered in agenda order. Committee "green files" contain copies of resolutions, amendments, ordinances, reports and correspondence, etc., which may be reviewed upon request of the Committee Clerk. The official copy of these minutes is available in the County Board office.

Adjourned: 4:15 p.m.

*Linda K. Durham*

**Linda K. Durham, Committee Clerk**